

Dear Parents,

Our school recognizes the importance of protecting the environment and your child's health. For this reason, we are implementing an "anti-idling" policy for school buses and vehicles in the student pick-up/drop-off area, effective immediately.

Did you know vehicle exhaust contains fine particulate matter? Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), also known as particle pollution, is a mixture of microscopic particles and liquid droplets so small they often get by the body's defense system and settle in our lungs. PM_{2.5} is 28 times smaller than the width of a single human hair! Particle pollution can cause both short- and long-term health problems, ranging from bronchitis and asthma to lung cancer and heart problems. Children are more susceptible to the effects of particle pollution because their respiratory systems are still developing.

The anti-idling policy will require minimal changes on your part. We ask that you try to arrive as close to actual pick-up/drop-off times as possible and turn your vehicle's engine off while waiting for your child.

School buses will be subject to strict guidelines and procedures meant to reduce the amount of PM_{2.5} in the air and decrease student exposure.

By working together, we can protect the health of your children and our students.

Thank you,